

Project name:	Hinkley Point C
Address/Location	Hinkley Somerset
IPC Ref:	EN010001
IPC transboundary consultation process:	Regulation 24
Document used for transboundary screening:	Hinkley Point C Proposed Nuclear Development EIA Scoping Report Jan 2010
Date	20 October 2011
Prepared by	DP/RP
Approved by	ST

Screening Criteria	IPC Comments ¹ .
<p>Characteristics of the Development</p>	<p>The project will comprise two UK EPR reactor units and shared facilities. The reactor is designed for a lifetime of 60 years. It is anticipated that the first reactor will be operational by the end of 2017 and the second by 2020 (Scoping Report paragraph 1.4.1) subject to the DCO being granted.</p> <p>Generated steam will power a single large turbine, directly connected to a generator capable of producing around 1630MW of electrical power.</p> <p>New and spent fuel will be handled in the fuel building adjacent to the reactor building. Spent fuel will be moved to an on-site storage facility designed to accommodate the nuclear power station's lifetime spent fuel arisings and capable of storing the fuel for at least 100 years. The spent fuel will be disposed of in a geological disposal facility consistent with the Government's long term strategy.</p> <p>Scoping Report does not specifically state the size of development. But it will comprise a number of development areas including the generating station and associated development.</p> <p>On-site associated development comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all infrastructure and facilities needed to support the operation of the nuclear power station including offices, workshops, storage buildings and transport infrastructure and car parks; • a sea wall along the frontage of the site for coastal protection; • interim spent fuel storage facilities; • interim radioactive waste storage facilities; • cooling water tunnels (two intake and one outfall) and associated infrastructure; • construction areas and facilities including a Temporary Aggregates Jetty (the jetty) for bulk aggregate delivery; • temporary accommodation for construction workers; • spoil disposal/landscape integration; and • transmission infrastructure from the generating station to a proposed National Grid sub-station. <p>The new sub-station and overhead lines to the existing Hinkley</p>

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	<p>connection will not form part of the DCO but will be considered in the EIA under cumulative impacts.</p> <p>Off-site associated development comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a bypass around the village of Cannington; • accommodation facilities for construction workers (campuses); • park and ride facilities; • freight consolidation/storage facilities; • refurbishment of Combwich Wharf and a heavy loads berthing facility; • temporary laydown and storage facilities on land adjacent to Combwich Wharf; • road improvements; and • spoil disposal/landscape integration. <p>In additional to the more conventional building techniques, there will be high tech construction techniques/methods for more sensitive construction and receiving environments, including the construction of cooling water intakes/outfalls in the Severn Estuary and the construction of the reactors and fuel storage facilities.</p> <p>As a result of the development during construction, operation and decommissioning, waste will be generated, and include the following types:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radioactive and Non-radioactive waste • Solid radioactive waste • Liquid and gaseous radioactive waste • Spent fuel • Conventional waste – Scoping report states that conventional wastes including industrial, inert and commercial wastes, are estimated at 1,200 tpa, of which less than 20% will be classified as ‘hazardous’. <p>The scoping report has considered the potential impacts and provided an opinion on why these impacts may or may not be significant taking into account amongst other things the capacity of the natural environment.</p>
Geographical area	Distance to another EEA state is not specified within the Scoping Report.
Location of Development	<p>The majority of the land being used for the main and associated development is agricultural land.</p> <p>Historic land uses include: possible storage and maintenance of vehicles and chemicals within farm buildings, former sewage works, former contractor's accommodation, fabrication compound</p>

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	and associated electrical substations.
Cumulative impacts	<p>Potential cumulative impacts arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decommissioning of the existing Hinkley Point A power station • Hinkley Point B is operational (NB: Hinkley Point B is due for decommissioning in 2016) power station • construction of the Steart coastal realignment • North East Bridgwater urban extension • Bristol Harbour extension
Carrier	<p>The scoping report has not identified any potential transboundary impacts. Without any specific design measures in place during construction and operation, there could be potential impacts in relation to the marine environment, air quality and potential radiological effects.</p> <p>However, high tech methods are proposed during construction/operation of the development, and the mitigation measures are expected to be in place to address any potential adverse impacts. Also, any residual effects on human beings and the sensitive ecological species/habitats should be minimised and/or controlled through the imposition of appropriate licensing and monitoring conditions by the regulatory agencies.</p> <p>On the basis that these are effective, impacts will not be significant.</p>
Environmental Importance	<p>A number of internationally designated sites exist that will be subject to Habitat Regulations Assessment, including: Severn Estuary SAC, Severn Estuary SPA, Somerset Levels and Moors SPA, Somerset Levels and Moors Ramsar Site, Exmoor and Quantocks Oakwoods SAC, River Usk SAC, River Wye SAC, Afon Tywi SAC.</p> <p>The scoping report states that exceedances are recorded occasionally for arsenic, cadmium, copper, nickel, lead, zinc and mercury but in all cases annual average concentrations are below EQS. Also synthetic compounds have historically been an issue and monitoring undertaken has indicated several EQS exceedances for pesticides and herbicides in the East Severn area. Recent data, however, indicates that exceedances of EQS now rarely occur.</p>
Extent	Not included in the scoping report. However, through the design measures built into the development, the delivery of mitigation measures, effective control by the relevant regulatory bodies conditions and monitoring, impacts on another EEA State will not be significant.
Magnitude	Not included in the scoping report. However, through the design measures built into the development, the delivery of mitigation measures, effective control by the relevant regulatory bodies

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	conditions and monitoring, impacts on another EEA State will not be significant.
Probability	<p>Not included within the scoping report.</p> <p>However, the probability of a radiological impact is considered to be low on the basis of the regulatory regimes in place.</p> <p>There could be direct impacts related to the discharge of water during normal operational conditions. However, the discharge of water is expected to be controlled by appropriate licensing conditions and regular monitoring, and hence the probability of any adverse impacts is likely to be low.</p>
Duration	Not included in the scoping report. The duration of any impacts will be minimised given the design measures built into the development, the delivery of mitigation measures, and controlled by the relevant regulatory conditions including monitoring, but could occur over the lifetime of the project
Frequency	Not included in the scoping report. However, the frequency of any impacts will be minimised given the design measures built into the development, the delivery of mitigation measures, and controlled by the relevant regulatory conditions including monitoring.
Reversibility	<p>Not included in the scoping report.</p> <p>The Developer has indicated that information is included in the Government's submission to the European Commission under Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty to show that transboundary impacts from accidents during operation or decommissioning will be so low as to be exempt from regulatory control.</p>

Conclusion

Under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 and on the basis of the current information available from the developer, the IPC is of the view that the proposed development is **not likely** to have significant effects on the environment in another EEA State.

In reaching this view the IPC has applied the precautionary approach (as explained in IPC Advice Note 12 Transboundary Impacts Consultation); and taken into account the information currently supplied by the developer.

Action: No further action at this stage.

Note: The Commission's duty under Regulation 24 of the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulation 2009 continues throughout the application process.

Note:

1. The IPC screening of transboundary issues is based on the relevant considerations specified in Annex 4 to IPC Advice Note 12 (see attached).

IPC Advice Note Twelve: Development with significant transboundary impacts consultation

Annexe 4: Screening Matrix for likely significant effects on the environment of another EEA State

Criteria	Relevant considerations
Characteristics of the development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the size of the development? Use of natural resources Production of waste Pollution and nuisances Risk of accidents Use of technologies
Geographical area	What is the extent of the area of a likely impact under the jurisdiction of another country?
Location of development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the existing use? What is the distance to another country? (Name country(ies))
Cumulative impacts	Are other major developments close by?
Carrier	By what means could impacts be spread?
Environmental importance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are particular environmental values (eg protected areas – name them) likely to be affected? Capacity of the natural environment Wetlands, coastal zones, mountain and forest areas, nature reserves and parks, Natura 2000 sites, areas where environmental quality standards already exceeded, densely populated areas, landscapes of historical, cultural or archaeological significance
Extent	What is the likely extent of the impact (geographical area and size of the affected population)
Magnitude	What will the likely magnitude of the change in relevant variables relative to the status quo, taking into account the sensitivity of the variable?
Probability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the degree of probability of the impact? Is the impact likely to occur as a consequence of normal conditions or exceptional situations, such as accidents?
Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the impact likely to be temporary, short-term or long-term? Is the impact likely to relate to the construction, operation or decommissioning phase of the activity?
Frequency	What is likely to be the temporal pattern of the impact?
Reversibility	Is the impact likely to be reversible or irreversible?